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CAPITAL CITY ATHLETES

The increasing interest shown among amateur athletes in cross-country running points to a revival of a sport which a few years ago was immensely popular everywhere, but from lack of encouragement in latter years was allowed to die a natural death. A "national" championship is booked for April 24 under the auspices of the Knickerbocker A. C. and it has received the sanction of the Amateur Athletic Union. The recent limitation, however, placed on contestants for championship honors, who must be members of some club connected with the Amateur Athletic Union, as mentioned several weeks ago in this column, has caused some of their national importance, and has been confined.

Eddie Carter, of the N. Y. A. C., has a scheme on foot to hold a cross-country race on April 2 which shall be open to all amateurs, and Capt. Bartow S. Weeks, N. Y. A. C., makes liberal offers in the matter of prizes. There will be no club limit, and prizes for best team of five, time prizes and so on. Last year the N. Y. A. C. had over 100 starters over the Fort George course, and it is expected that number will be more than doubled this time. It is quite probable that a team will be organized to represent this city and Baltimore.

James E. Sullivan, secretary of the A. A. U., is of the opinion that an alliance between the L. A. W. and A. A. U. will be renewed. On Wednesday last the articles of alliance which were adopted by the two organizations were terminated by limitation. It will be remembered that at last year's spring meeting of the union the articles of alliance were revised after conferring with J. B. Potter for the league, but the revision was never adopted by the executive committee of the L. A. W., and in consequence the old articles remained in effect until last Wednesday.

The revision was made because Mr. Gideon, who succeeded Mr. Raymond as chairman of the racing board did not interpret the terms of alliance as did the latter. Gideon, it is said, granted concessions to clubs which included in their programs of meeting unregistered athletes events for suspended athletes. This brought forth a storm of protest from the union as Mr. Raymond had declined to do the same. As Mr. Potter is now president of the L. A. W., he will present articles, which will prevent misunderstandings and when he appoints his new racing board the alliance with the union on the plan laid down by him originally will soon be in effect. There is still a wide difference of opinion as to the wisdom of the move.

The first number of the Winged Arrow, the official organ of the Columbia Athletic Club, is out, and a very pretty combination of the literary and mechanical departments it is. It will be issued monthly to members of the club, and the terms of subscription are "active or visiting membership in the Columbia Athletic Club." The publication committee consists of C. A. Calver, chairman; R. J. Beall, Jr., W. R. King, H. S. Flynn, Howard Perry and H. C. C. Stiles, a very strong combination and degeneration of push and brain. The editorial "saloon" is bright and interesting and full of good advice and suggestion and hope. The club has every reason to be proud of the venture which will undoubtedly prove to be a great success. The "organ" is well edited and covers every department of the club, and is illustrated to further bring out its features, and contains splendid half-tone likenesses of the club's handsome officers. The Times bids the newcomer welcome and "happy days" as dear old Alex. Shaw has upon occasion been heard to say.

The club will have its annual public entertainment at the Columbia Theatre on the evening of May 3, and a novel entertainment is being planned. Prof. Crossley is anxious to begin at once the preparation for it, and to that end invites all members who desire to take part in the show to meet him tomorrow, Monday evening, at 8 o'clock, in the gym, when he will begin to pick the team for the pyramids and other athletic features. He promises with the able "second the motion" of Capt., or rather Major, Stenmetz, that this show will be a "winner."

The gym classes are attended by many who value the excellent course of exercise given by Prof. Crossley for the good it does, and dignity is lent the classes by the



PAUL F. HUGHES.

attendance of members of the German Embassy, Capt. Stenmetz, Dorsey Brown, Dick Beall, Lieut. Nolan, Dr. Suters and Alex. Grant.

One hundred and five new members have signed the register as attendants upon classes in the gym, and this is only about half the actual number who regularly exercise. Saturday morning sees the professor surrounded and climbed all over by from fifty to seventy-five juniors.

Ex-President Alex. Grant and W. B. Hibbs are the club's delegates to the Athletic Association of the A. A. U.

The cycle department will begin its club runs, that is, the long ones, on May 29, when another invasion of the peaceful Shenandoah Valley is to be attempted. The next meeting of the house committee will be held on next Saturday evening.

The many new members of Carroll Institute are taking up the work in the gym, and in consequence the classes are larger than ever before, having as many as fifty men on the floor at class nights. Prof. Joyce tells me that he hopes to have his classes ready for an athletic and gymnastic exhibition and institute championships, to be given about the middle of April, and for this event his juniors and seniors are taking up some novel features. The professor believes in plenty of regular, systematic exercise and training for body-building, and his classes are conducted with that end in view. He is ever ready to instruct those who desire to take up specially and aerobically work, and many of his pupils are quite proficient.

The ladies' classes are doing some excellent all-round drill work, and the classes which are held on Monday and Thursday afternoons, from 3:30 to 5:30, are larger than ever since they were begun.

The members of the junior class are working up some pretty special drill movements for the coming exhibition, and among those doing especially well are Masters Barker, Downey, Stone, Bailey, Herzog, Shepard, Keith, Murphy, Schinapp and Lynch.

The members of the District Bowling League team are making a militant fight for the leading place in the league, and the reserve team in the second team league has the lead by a small margin, but this place the Senators, as in the major league, hope to hold when the series comes to an end.

Bicycle Exhibition

-AT-

Robinson & Chery Co.'s,

12th & F Streets.

Our annual exhibition of the 1897 Models of all the best makes of Bicycles will open tomorrow and continue every day this week from 3 to 10 o'clock P. M., during which hours we cordially invite all riders and others interested in cycling to call and inspect the new features in cycle construction.

All the latest improvements in frames, pedals, crank-hangers, etc.

All the novelties in Tires, Saddles, Lamps, Bells, etc.

In the evening there will be music, FREE SOUVENIRS and fast riding by some of the crack racers of the city.

The admission is FREE. The exhibition is given by us at our expense to enable the Washington cyclist to become familiar with all the latest cycle improvements.

So come; be our guest for an hour or two any afternoon or evening. It will be both enjoyable and instructive.

Robinson & Chery Co.,

12th & F Streets N. W.

his good all-round strong playing. He also played for a time on the famous Orient team, on Capitol Hill, in this city. He is a member of the Institute basketball team, and one of its star players, and by his good playing has made himself popular with rival teams, and the lovers of the game generally.

One of the best all-round basketball players in the city and one of the "stars" of the Washington Light Infantry champion team, is C. Royce Hough, who is at the same time one of the most successful of our star football athletes. He has played center for the team for the past two years, in each of which the team has landed the championship. He is an ex-member of the C. A. C., for which club he appeared in many local and out-of-town events, and as a reward for his skill and activity has many handsome prizes and medals to show. He began his athletic career in 1890 in the Y. M. C. A. games, winning first prizes in each of the high jump, broad jump and 16-pound shot. The following year he won first place in the quarter mile against one of the largest fields that has entered in the history, there being some eighty-five starters in the several heats. He is also a clever boxer and a sprinter of some ability. He was the second American in this country to win a prize at games throwing, the sport introduced here by the Princeton athletes after their trip to Athens. He won this event under the W. L. L. colors in the last fall games of the C. A. C.

When Prof. John Crossley came to take charge of athletics in the C. A. C. the subject of this sketch was the first man he picked out for high jumping and weight events, and the professor's judgment in this selection is so many others since then was borne out by the success of the pupil, who always reflected credit upon his able instructor and himself as well, and brought honor to the colors he wore.

He learns all the latest about athletics from Prof. Crossley. He has a powerful physique and a splendid muscular development, he weighs 190 pounds, which is well distributed over the six feet in height. He is especially well proportioned for the jumping and the weight events and in several of these he is the holder of district records. He will represent the Light Infantry this season in all the events in which he is so well qualified to meet all comers.

Another member of the Light Infantry who has a future in athletics is J. D. McGuire, one of the backs of the champion basketball team. He took up athletics in 1904, as a member of the C. A. C. champion basketball team and is now an ex-member of that club. He is well and stockily built, being about 5 feet 10 inches tall and weighing 180 pounds. He has not taken up any special field or track events, but has made his way in team contests and general work to considerable popularity. He is considered a clever boxer and as a bag puncher he has put up several good exhibitions with local men well up in that line. He will make a good all-round man and will represent the Infantry in the coming season's events.

The Eastern Athletic Club is enjoying the most flourishing period in its existence, and its future is assured. At the last meeting of the club the resignation of W. B. Jefferson as financial secretary was accepted and W. E. Grimes, a member of the board, was elected to fill the vacancy, and he will make a good officer, too. With H. Wright, a popular and hard-working

member of the club, the future of the club is bright.

New applications for membership in the Washington Athletic Club are received weekly, and have prompt action at the earliest possible meeting. This flourishing condition of affairs cannot be otherwise, with the gratifying to the management and its friends.

The entertainment committee is at work upon a card of social events for the rest of the season, and good, social times are in store for the club's friends. The first event will be a complimentary hop at the clubhouse on Easter Monday Evening.

The excursion season will include four river outings. The first to River View, on the evening of May 28, will be complimentary. The next, on June 21, will be an all-day trip to the same popular resort.

The third trip will be to Chapel Point in August, and another complimentary outing to River View later in the season. Masters George and Tombs are taking plenty of hard practice on the trapeze, preparing for a professional engagement.

The bowling members are playing well, and their recent double victory over the leaders in the league is noteworthy, and shows that the team is a strong one; but has been unfortunate in having a run of hard luck. Capt. Kidd and Schlessinger and Fuller have been keeping up to the usual standard, and are holding good positions in the individual averages.

The committee having the matter in charge is making arrangements to hold a bazaar for the club benefit some time in October next. President M. J. Brown, who is working hard for the club's success, has named the following strong executive committee, of which the chairman is Messrs. G. A. Martin, C. R. Howison, J. Dietz, W. A. Dietz, W. A. Richards, J. C. Reeves, W. Wright, J. Martin, G. G. Eaton, J. Horan, S. Dana Lincoln, E. S. Randall, S. Martin, E. Ruff, T. Birch, T. A. Burns, H. S. Storey, B. Kidd, William Pyles, Robert Storey, J. O'Connor, Dave Schlessinger, W. G. Kidd, H. Norton, H. Werres, R. Mackey, and E. N. Richards.

The club will put a strong baseball team in the field for the coming season. It has not yet been decided whether it will join one of the amateur leagues or simply play as an independent nine. The club has lots of good material from which to pick a winning team.

George Day, W. H. Wright, Brearley and W. E. Grimes.

Much to the gratification of his clubmates Lieut. W. H. Wright decided, upon request, to withdraw his resignation as a member, and this popular young member will continue to render his club the valuable services of which he is capable.

All the members remember with pleasure the success of their excursion last season and are enthusiastic over the prospects of holding two river trips this summer to River View, the first on June 8 and the next on August 27. Several applications for membership received favorable action at the last meeting and others are now pending.

Notwithstanding the lateness of the season a pool tournament will be held at an early day.

The matter of uniforms for the cycle members has been under consideration for some time, and a selection was made at a recent meeting of the cycle department. Samples were submitted by all the local dealers, and the choice made will prove to be not only distinctive, but very attractive.

The meeting proposed by the club to be held for the purpose of forming an association of the cycle clubs of the District, postponed on account of the inauguration, will be called at an early date, and it is hoped that favorable action will be had.

The members of the basketball team are naturally "put out," and that's putting it mildly, on account of the prolixous postponement and forfeiting of league games by teams which have no show of bettering their position in the championship race. The great interest in the competition for several years past, and the fact that the Easterns are unquestionably entitled, they have earned it on games won, and stand ready now, as they have always done, to play all unplayed games scheduled for them. They have been true sportsmen all the way through, and good basketball players, too, and not theorists. The league will hold

When Jim met Mitchell he betrayed signs of irritability. This was accounted for by the fact that Mitchell had said insulting things about him. It was remarked by old fight chroniclers that the Sullivan-Corbett fight was a chivalrous struggle, while the Mitchell go was more in the nature of a grudge fight.

In the Corbett-Sharkey four rounds in San Francisco Jim's condition gave out perceptibly. He had no complaint to make prior to entering the ring, but when it was all over he stated that indulgence in French dinners and carelessness in the matter of working too much indoors had affected him when the critical moment arrived. Some people would not have it that way. They said that the excellent told on Corbett and that he was not the cool-headed, physically perfect Corbett of old.

There is no denying that the excitement of the ring is one of the most acute tests of condition. It is something that no fighter can provide for in his training, and when the pinch comes it makes manifest his weak points. There is this to be said, however, if it was excitement that weakened Corbett when he had his whirlwind clatter with the boxing sailor, there was some excuse for it.

It was a night of wild excitement. The champion was looked to shatter the mariner's aspirations with a series of rapid rushes and lightning smashes, and from the moment the starting gong tapped even the spectators were tipping.

The main question, of course, is how will Jim hold himself together if the coming contest is on the right-taping lines of the Sharkey match. Delaney and White contend that Corbett is equal for any line of a mill. Jim himself says the same. They are convinced that physically and mentally Jim is at his very best, and if Fitzsimmons beats him they say it will be freely conceded that Fitzsimmons could have done the trick at any stage in Jim's career.

So far as Jim and muscle are concerned Corbett is in marvelous trim. The manner in which he will acquire himself if the fight is on the hurricane order can only be surmised. Good authorities are inclined to think that he will keep his wits about him and prove himself to be a great general. He may try to shorten the fight, but it will only be when he feels that he has sized his opponent up completely. There was an argument as to the effect excitement has on a man in the ring one day at Cook's Grove, and Fitzsimmons said:

"I never get excited. I think that a fighter who becomes excited should get out of the business. If it can be traced to some physical defect it goes to show that he has been too long at the game and should retire. A pugilist in possession of his faculties has no more right to get excited than has an actor who is appearing before the people every night of his life. Why, when I fought Sharkey a bench fell over somewhere with a terrific crash. I could see out of the corners of my eyes that people were turning their heads to look but I did not avert my glance for a second. I just gazed straight at my man, and I think that is sufficient proof that my mind is always on making a good and careful fight, and nothing else."

Up to the time that Fitzsimmons met Sharkey it was never hinted that he had degenerated in any way. On the contrary, it was generally believed that he was gaining weight year after year; that he was hitting harder and becoming more formidable in every respect. However, he says now that he is getting lighter. Still he claims to be in the best of condition. He certainly goes through his work in a manner that intimates that he is in excellent trim, albeit it can be noticed that he breathes more heavily than does Corbett after a boxing bout or a scuffle with his wrestling partner.

The weight of the men, of course, cuts

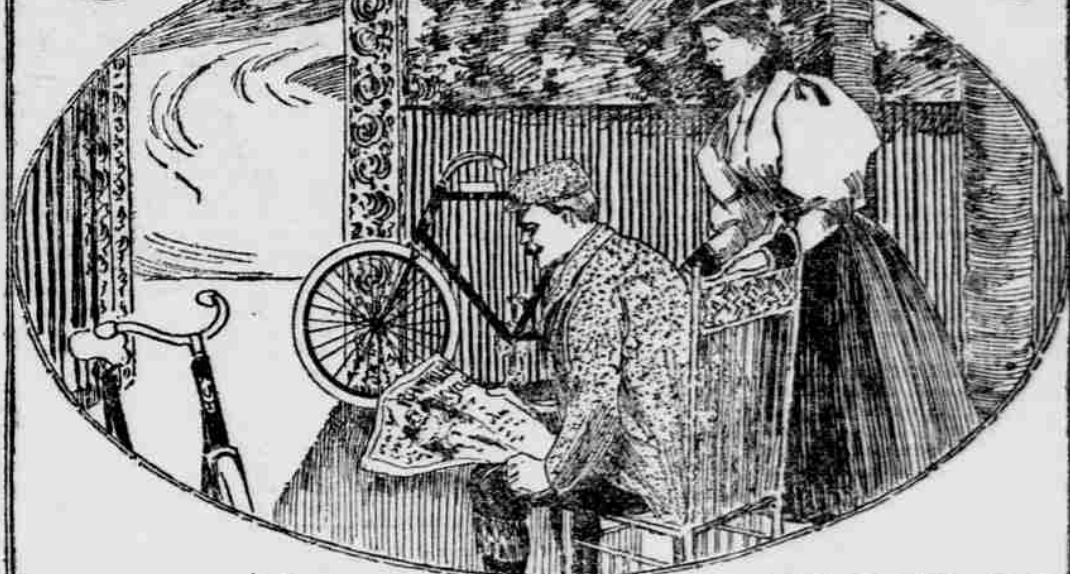
some figure. Pugilists lie about their weights as cheerfully as girls romance about the number of suitors they have been on earth. To the accustomed eye it is plain to be seen that Corbett is at least a twelve or fifteen pound heavier man than his prospective opponent. From the waist up Fitzsimmons looks to be bigger and heavier than Jim, and as it is in arms, chest and shoulders that the driving machinery is located, there is not much difference in the fighting weight of the pair.

The Cincinnati Club is hard at work as New Orleans. The reports from the team are glowing, and the Cincinnati papers are claiming the pennant under big headlines. They did the same thing last year.

The Washington club will commence regular team practice at National Park a week from tomorrow. By that time all of the players, except Smith and McManes, will have reported in person to Manager Schmeiz.

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COMPARISON OF THE MEN

Corbett Has Seemingly Regained the Vigor of His Younger Days.

The Champion Is Prepared for a Long Battle—Fitz Talks About Excitement in the Ring.

In treating of the present condition of Fitzsimmons and Corbett it might be as well to hark back to other ring encounters in which they figured. Thus, for the purpose of showing how they acquitted themselves on former occasions when apparently trained to the hour. Corbett was doubtless at his best when he faced Sullivan. He was as limber as an eel and no degree of exertion appeared to tire him. It was a case of a sound mind in a sound body, for he was as cool as a cucumber, and he did not make a single mistake while taking the big fellow's measure.

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DIAMOND DUST

Ex-Senator Joquet Meekin is reported to be in better condition this season than for several years past. "Jo" has joined the Giants at Lakewood and is undertaking light preliminary practice.

The baseball writers have an idea that they will have ex-Senator John "Jenna" Ingalls as a fellow-reporter the coming season.

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The Milwaukee papers deny that Bob Allen, of Detroit, is the highest paid manager in the Western League. They claim that Connie Mack's salary can see Allen \$1,850 and go to \$500 better.

Jimmy McJames has written a friend in the city that he will arrive in Washington about April 5. Jimmy says he has reached that degree of hardiness in the study of medicine and bones that he can watch the dissection of a "rat" without falling into a faint.

Three of the most popular and most prominent of the Brooklyn club have died within the past five years. Hub Collins was the first to go. His death occurred in 1892. Darby O'Brien lived only a year longer, and now Dave Foster has passed away. All three of them suffered from pulmonary trouble.

Young Roger Denzer, the Western League "wonder," who was drafted by the Chicago Club, demanded \$2,100 salary for the season, but "complied" on \$1,200. Denzer, like a great many politicians seeking office at present, aimed high, but was content with what he could get.

"Old Eagle Eye" Jake Beckley, of the New Yorks, is said to be meeting the leather at a 400 clip in the practice games at Hot Springs. Beckley, like Cartwright, was a little shy in his batting last season, but both of the big first basemen will no doubt make the "big" this year.

The late Dave Foster's wife has been an inmate of an insane asylum for two years. She was Miss Glocks, of New York, and was exceedingly devoted to her husband. She was his constant companion, and the distressing affliction which overcame her came dark clouds to the East, and without the madam's help, resulting hastened his death.

Some of the papers are wondering whether Decker's "throwing arm" will ever recover from the break that followed his collision with Cartwright on first base at National Park last season in a game between the Senators and Chicago. As Decker throws with his right hand and as it was his left arm that was broken it would appear to be a horse on the fellows who are losing sleep over the matter. Besides, Decker stated in a letter from his California home several weeks ago, that the injured member had entirely recovered.

In the opinion of Manager Schmeiz, Baltimore has no "lead-pipe club" on winning the pennant for the fourth time. He says: "There are two clubs in the league to which little attention has been paid as aspirants for the pennant, which should not be lost to sight—Chicago, in the West, and Boston in the East. They are two grand, good ball clubs. I think that Boston is stronger in the box than last season, and that Klobdanz will prove a tower of strength. If he can keep on this season as he ended last, he will prove one of the greatest finds of baseball in recent years. The outfield is well fortified in case of injury, as both Stahl and Tenney are first-class men. The struts that the Baltimore players have been under in defending the flag for three successive years is bound to tell on them in the end."

Robinson, of the Baltimore club, is the only National League pitcher who captains his team. Five of the other captains are outfielders, to-wit: Duffy of Boston, Griffin of Brooklyn, David of St. Louis, Brown of Washington, and Denner of Pittsburgh. The others are infielders. Anson of Chicago, Ewing of Cincinnati, and Tolan of Cleveland play first base for their respective teams. Joyce of New York is a third baseman, and Rogers, who is a first baseman, will it is thought, play second base for the Louisville club in 1897. His regular position is first base, but he showed while with Washington in 1896 that he can give a good account of himself at third base. Under the new rule forbidding the captain of a team to leave his position when appearing to the umpire, Robinson, of Baltimore, will have a decided advantage, as the umpire will seldom be more than a few feet from him during a game. However, Robinson does not play every day, and in his absence Leftfielder Joe Kelly acts as captain, so the champions only possess a point of vantage to the umpire on those days that Robby feels like catching.

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